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**IBEX WILL HOST SEVERAL EXCITING EVENTS FOR MARINE PROFESSIONALS TO
CONNECT WHEN THE INDUSTRY GATHERS IN LOUISVILLE IN SEPTEMBER**

LOUISVILLE, KY, July 30, 2015 – The International BoatBuilders' Exhibition and Conference (IBEX), will be the place to be September 15 – September 17, 2015 at the Kentucky Exposition Center, with an incredible line-up of events planned to give attendees and exhibitors an opportunity to mix and mingle throughout the three-day event.

“In addition to an expansive show floor and our unmatched education program, we have created several fun and interesting events to bring the industry together,” said Anne Dunbar, IBEX Show Director. “We are taking advantage of being in Louisville and will host the Bourbon and Brew Happy Hour, Opening Night Party on Fourth Street LIVE!, and the Rock the Yacht concert. We will provide attendees and exhibitors a chance to network with leading industry professionals from all over the world to discuss upcoming trends and form lasting relationships.”

IBEX will kick off with the **Industry Breakfast, Keynote Address, & Innovation Awards Presentation**, sponsored by Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF), taking place Tuesday, September 15th from 7:30 – 9:30 am. Baseball Hall of Fame Catcher Johnny Bench will be IBEX's keynote speaker and the coveted Innovation Awards will be presented to the winning exhibitors. There will also be a special addition to the Industry Breakfast presentation this year as IBEX will recognize its Silver Exhibitors, companies who have exhibited at all 25 IBEX shows.

At the end of the day on Tuesday, attendees are invited to judge the **Composite Challenge & Cocktail Competition** and award the best cocktail in the Composites Pavilion on Tuesday, September 15th at 5 pm. This event is sponsored by Composites One and Magnum Venus Products. “We are thrilled to be bringing the Cocktail Challenge back to IBEX this year and invite all attendees to stop by the pavilion to taste the crazy creative composite cocktails concocted by our composite suppliers. Exhibitors will pose challenge questions and prizes will be awarded,” said Marcy Offner, Director, Marketing Communications, Composites One. “This is a great opportunity to meet potential new partners, suppliers, and connect with colleagues.”

Following the Cocktail Competition will be the **Opening Night Party on Fourth St. Live**. Enjoy entertainment, music, and great food with marine industry professionals in downtown Louisville's premier entertainment district. The party will be taking place Tuesday, September 15th, after the exhibit hall closes at 6 pm.

On Wednesday, September 16th from 5 - 6 pm in the Exhibit Hall will be the **Bourbon & Brew Happy Hour** featuring some of Kentucky's best local distilleries including Four Roses, Maker's Mark, Angel's Envy, and Alltech, and breweries including ATG, Goodwood, Blue Stallion, and Gordon Beirsch. Attendees will be able to taste their favorite bourbons and brews throughout the exhibit hall while connecting with colleagues.

The IBEX 25th show celebration continues with a pre-party and live concert on Wednesday, September 16th at 6 pm with **Rock the Yacht at IBEX**. Enjoy an evening of live music from bands including Little River Band, Ambrosia, and more, great food and drinks, and lots of fun. Pre-Party begins at 6 pm, in North Wing with the concert to follow at Freedom Hall at the KEC. Enjoy a DJ spinning great tunes, a food truck bazaar, cash bars, and special VIP Meet & Greet packages. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets.

Exhibitors interested in participating in any of these networking events should contact Tina [tina@ibexshow.com] or Kate [kate@ibexshow.com]. More information about the networking events can also be found at <http://ibexshow.com/events.php>.

About IBEX: Owned and produced by *Professional BoatBuilder* magazine and the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), IBEX is the marine industry's largest technical trade event. For boatbuilders, marine industry dealers, aftermarket suppliers and buyers, designers, repairers, surveyors, and boatyard/marine operators, IBEX is where better boats begin. For the latest information, visit www.ibexshow.com.

About *Professional BoatBuilder* magazine: *Professional BoatBuilder*, a boatbuilding-industry trade magazine, was first published in 1989 in response to a growing need for a dedicated forum for boatbuilding-related professionals. The magazine's worldwide readership exceeds 24,000. *Professional BoatBuilder* is online at www.proboat.com.

About NMMA: The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is the leading association for the North American recreational boating industry. NMMA member companies produce more than 80 percent of the boats, engines, trailers, accessories and gear used by boaters in North America. The association is dedicated to industry growth through programs in public policy advocacy, market statistics and research, product quality assurance and promotion of the boating lifestyle. Learn more at www.nmma.org.

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